



St. Norbert's

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

We strive to nurture and develop the whole child through a love of God, a love of one another and a love of life itself.



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Friday 10th January 2025

VIRTUES AND VALUES

Virtue of the term
Knowledge

Value of the Month
Self-discipline

LET US PRAY

Lord, we became your children at our baptism. Help us to know your love so we can share it freely with others.
Amen.

ARTICLES OF THE WEEK

Subsidiarity and Solidarity CST



A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

The children in Foundation have settled quickly back into our busy routines and are really embracing their new topic Castles. They enjoyed their outdoor learning session looking at signs of winter and making their own binoculars!

Year 1 have started their learning all about Vincent Van Gogh. They learned ways to recognise this paintings and responded to their favourites through words, drawings and paint. Their sketchbooks looked incredible! Well done year 1.

Year 2 have enjoyed their first week back in the New Year! We have been using the New Bluebots which are controlled through Bluetooth technology. We have been trying to be robots and control each other to move around the classroom to understand clear commands. We have also been learning about Shapes in Maths and revisiting our understanding of Vertices and edges. We are learning about the Artist Lowry in our Art this term and have been finding out about who Lowry was and what types of Art were produced.

Year 3 children had great fun re-enacting out a range of scenarios from our new Book "Escape from Pompeii". The children used props to enhance their acting and were able to evaluate and support each other. Some great ideas were shown and delivered.

Year 4 have started their settlement topic looking at where settlements are and why people in the past chose to settle in certain areas. They have also started their topic on teeth, identifying the different types of teeth we have.

Year 5 have settled well into the new term. They have been looking at the properties of different materials in Science and have conducted an experiment considering whether the materials are waterproof, conductors, absorbent and their flexibility.

This week Year 6 had the exciting opportunity to participate in a Magistrates Workshop. Emma Greene, a local magistrate came in and taught the children how the court system works in England and Wales, she explained what the processes happen when someone breaks the law. The classroom was then set up like a real Court Room and they acted out a real courtroom drama about a boy called Harri who had stolen Charlie's mobile phone- injuring Charlie in the process. Once the evidence was heard everyone looked at the options and decided on the best form of punishment for the crime committed. The children learnt that as a magistrate you have to decide upon the severity of the blame, harm and seriousness of the crime. It was great fun to learn about the court system and how it works and important that we all think about how our actions and decisions can have some serious consequences, resulting in having a criminal record which could effect the jobs that you are able to have when you are older.

Parking Reminder:

In the morning we allow and operate a drop and go option for families. This means you can drive into our car park and your child should get out independently and walk to the gate and onto the playground. We are receiving lots of complaints from parents understandably frustrated by delays caused by people not using the drop and go as intended.

Huge delays are being caused by parents that park in the car park to get out and go to the main office and by parents getting out of the car, spending time getting bags and resources out and then walking children to the gate.

If your child cannot quickly get out of the car and walk to the gate themselves you need to park down the road and walk into school. If you need to go to the office you need to park elsewhere and walk in.

If this does not improve I will be locking the staff car park like the afternoons and no longer offer a Drop and Go system.

Please take care in this continued spell of cold weather and I hope you are able to enjoy some fresh air and family time this weekend. We look forward to seeing you next week for lots of new learning!

Mrs Withers x

Norbert Bear

Norbert Bear will be going home with a child in reception on a Friday to spend the weekend! Please follow the instructions on Norbert's tag and tweet any photos with Norbert with your child having fun! Norbert must be returned to school on a Monday for a busy week at school!



Norbert will be going home with Enrika.

GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Jesus was baptised in order to receive the Holy Spirit for his work of teaching and healing, so that everyone would know he was the Son of God. Have you attended any baptisms? What are the special symbols used in the ceremony? – Promises, water, holy oil, white garment, lighted candle. What does our baptism mean to us?

As we consider the privileges and responsibilities of our own baptism this week, let us reflect on our own sense of being set apart and chosen by God. Let us consider what it means to be a baptised Christian in this country, in our city, town, and place. What have been the consequences of our baptism, and how is our life different because of it? How strong is your sense of being 'beloved' and 'favoured' by God? How much time do you spend alone in prayer?



Discipleship

What do others say? Often others, especially those who are already living a life of holiness can serve as mouthpieces for God. For example when God calls Samuel it was through the advice of Eli that he finally recognised that it was God's call. Maybe there is an Eli for you out there who will help you recognise the call of the Lord? Seek out the wisdom of at least one, and perhaps several people, who you feel have the gift of wisdom and ask for their advice.

Baptism

Baptism is a sign of God's love and forgiveness, it marks a fresh start and a new beginning. When we are baptised are welcomed into the Church community of believers who love us, support us and help us grow. During baptism we are anointed as priest, prophet and king and called to live like Jesus did.

Participation CST

SAFEGUARDING



PUPIL OF THE WEEK



Foundation: Esther for being focused and ready in all areas of learning.
Year 1: Harmony for being so switched on with her learning this week- amazing!
Year 2: Eliza for her confidence in her written work this week.
Year 3: Tiago for his mature and positive attitude towards his learning this week.
Year 4: Joshua for showing great skills across all of the subjects. Taking part in discussions and working hard on all tasks.
Year 5 : Natan for doing well and applying himself in all areas of the curriculum.
Year 6: Alex for making a positive start to the term and his enthusiastic contribution to the Magistrates Workshop.

Use of Tablets

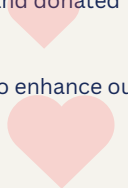
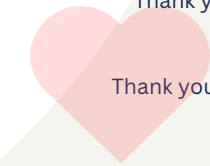


THE HEART THAT SEES AWARD

Each week the staff and pupils can all nominate their peers for this award, for those acts of mercy and kindness. New for this term 'Heart that Sees' stickers!

Thank you to all the families that have had a new year clear out and donated uniform to our PTA second-hand uniform shop!

Thank you to the Ford Family for the donation of an artificial tree to enhance our Christmas Decorating for 2025!



ATTENDANCE

Well done Year 6 for this week's highest scoring attendance! School Average this week 94.57%

Remember our school target is 97% and anything below 90% is Persistent Absence and can result in a fixed penalty notice. You must inform us when your child is not attending school if we are unable to make contact **we will conduct a home visit**. Pupils should be at school by 8:45 to avoid being marked as Late.

EYFS - 95.79%
 Year 1 - 90%
 Year 2 - 97.04%
 Year 3 - 95.93%
 Year 4 - 93.08%
 Year 5 - 94.64%
 Year 6 - 99.26%

**Happier January
Human Dignity CST**

WELLBEING

12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Take a different route today and see what you notice	14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today
15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	16 Contribute positively to your local community	17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes
		18 Get back in contact with an old friend

Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

[Place 2 Be](#)

[Mentally Healthy Schools hub by Heads Together](#)

[Our Time](#)



Recommended Reads

READING CORNER

The Boldest White - Ibtihaj Muhammad and S. K. Ali

Will Faizah be bold enough to fence in front of others? A warm, beautifully illustrated book with an unusual message on bravery.



Guardians of the New Moon: Ming and Miaow's Great Race - Eric Huang

The ruler of heaven challenges every animal to a great race, with the fastest 12 immortalised in the Chinese zodiac. Join Ming the fox and Miaow the cat as they fight to win the race!



The Zombie Project - Alice Nuttall

Merian's mum Gwen studies and protects zombies, but an unexpected zombie outbreak plunges them both into extreme danger. This highly original, dystopian novel is a thrilling and thought-provoking read.



MATHS STAR BADGES

Well done to those children in Year 6 who are storming through their Star Badge achievements!

Plat +1 - Cadence, Bhagavad, Don, Ariel, Sofia and Hugo

Gold - Eliza

Congratulations and keep up the hard work, it is lovely to celebrate your achievements.



DIARY DATES

Wednesday 22nd January - 28th January
School Book Fair

Wednesday 22nd January
Year 5 Class Worship - Parents Welcome
2:50pm

Wednesday 22nd January
Parents Evening 3:30pm- 6:30pm

Thursday 23rd January
Parents Evening 3:30pm- 5:30pm

Thursday 23rd January
Year 2 Class Prayer Service - Parents
Welcome 9am

Wednesday 29th January
Year 3 Class Worship - Parents Welcome
2:50pm

FACTS AND CHALLENGES



RSPB Big Bird/ Garden Watch

Yesterday, as part of outdoor learning Foundation class did a spot of bird watching they also made their own binoculars to take home. The RSPB are encouraging us all to take part in the garden watch and record what we have seen.

The Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring. So far there are 192,312 people signed up, if you go to this [link](#) you can sign up or the website has lots of lovely resources for you to do with your children. It is really important we look after our wildlife and nature. I hope you enjoy looking out for all our lovely birds!



Writing Challenge

1. Describe the perfect winter day.
2. Create a new sport for the winter Olympics.
3. Write about your best moments in the winter break.



Maths Challenges

Gabriel's Problem

Gabriel wrote the numbers 1-9 in a 3x3 grid.

He then multiplied together all the numbers in each row and wrote the resulting product next to that row. He also multiplied the numbers in each column together, and wrote the product under that column.

He then rubbed out the numbers 1-9.

Can you work out where Gabriel placed the numbers 1-9 in the grid?

Did you have enough information, not enough, or exactly the right amount?

			24
			40
			378
60	21	288	



nrich.maths.org

Nine Colours

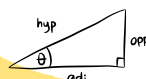


You have 27 small cubes, 3 each of nine colours.

Can you use all the small cubes to make a 3 by 3 by 3 cube so that each face of the bigger cube contains one of each colour?

nrich.maths.org

Children can access maths activities at home that we use in school. Follow these links to find out more.



$$\sin(\theta) = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}}$$

Mathematics Shed
Times Tables Rock Stars
[Top Marks](#)

